

WEEKLY DIGEST OF COVID-19 GUIDELINES

(12/10) The FDA's Vaccine Advisory Committee voted 17-4 in favor of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. The briefing can be found [here](#). The FDA is expected to approve the vaccine's use within days. For more information surrounding vaccine distribution plans here is the New York Times [piece](#) on the matter.

WHO

- (12/3) WHO launches the [Africa Infodemic Response Alliance](#), a group of 13 international and regional organizations and fact-checking groups, to counter misinformation around COVID-19 and other health emergencies. This is timely as the continent is expected to rollout vaccine campaigns next year.
- (12/4) WHO Chief Scientist Dr. Soumya Swaminathan reassures the public regarding criticism against the rushed vaccine development process and concerns over vaccine safety. In a [press conference](#), Swaminathan stated that vaccines still underwent the full process of development and early investments in manufacturing aided in speeding up logistics; "...it's building on scientific progress over the last few years."

CDC

- (9/4) Updated [Clinical Questions about COVID-19: Questions and Answers](#)
- (9/9) Updated [Toolkit for Clinicians](#)
- (9/4) [Information for Clinicians on Investigational Therapeutics for Patients with COVID-19](#) -- "CDC strongly encourages clinicians, patients and their advocates, and health system administrators to regularly consult the [COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines](#) published by the National Institutes of Health (NIH)."
- (9/9) [COVID-19 Forecasts: Deaths](#) -- "This week's national [ensemble forecast](#) predicts that the number of newly reported COVID-19 deaths will likely increase over the next 4 weeks, with 12,600 to 23,400 new deaths likely to be reported in the week ending January 2, 2021. The national ensemble predicts that a total of 332,000 to 362,000 COVID-19 deaths will be reported by this date."
- (9/4) [Healthcare Facilities That Have Implemented COVID-19 Electronic Case Reporting](#)
- (9/3) Updated [COVID-19 Critical Infrastructure Sector Response Planning](#)
- Contact Tracing and Testing guidance:
 - (9/3) [Scaling Up Staffing Roles in Case Investigation and Contact Tracing](#)
 - (9/3) Updated [COVID-19 Contact Tracing Communications Toolkit for Health Departments](#)
 - (9/3) [Testing Strategy for Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) in High-Density Critical Infrastructure Workplaces after a COVID-19 Case Is Identified](#)
- (12/8) [CDC Science Update](#) provides brief summaries of new COVID-19-related studies, while more research can be found here: [COVID-19 Published Science and Research](#)